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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS
APO 500
Natural Resources Section

c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.
9 March 1951

ILLEGIB

Dr. Harold J. Coolidge
Pacific Science Board
National Research Council
2101 Constitution Ave.
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Dr. Coolidge:

This letter on "Operation Trochus" is written in response to your verbal request of 3 March while you were in Tokyo. The letter represents personal views; it is not an official communication setting forth opinions of this Headquarters. Therefore, I must ask you not to place it in official files. You may obtain an official statement from us if you will initiate a request through Department of the Defense channels.

The problem which we discussed is how to obtain basic data of strategic importance on the Far East from Japanese sources, while trained Allied specialists are still in Japan.

As you know, there is a U. S. Geological Survey group here in charge of Mr. S. K. Neuschel working on:

1. The collection of available geological data now in Japanese hands (published and unpublished) on Far Eastern countries.
2. The encouragement of preparation by the Japanese themselves of geological, mineral resources, engineering geology reports for those areas of the Far East in which they worked. A Japanese committee ("Compilation Committee of Geology and Mineral Resources Study of the Far East") totalling about 180 Japanese geologists is being steered by Mr. Neuschel and his associates and where possible they are providing material help in order that their interest does not flag. Manuscripts have already started coming in and translation of them is underway.

Mr. Neuschel, in giving me the above, made the following statement: "One important thing to emphasize to Dr. Coolidge is that in addition to funds for provision of allied personnel, funds should be provided for assisting Japanese who can carry the load in compilation of heretofore unpublished or unwritten information."

Our Agriculture Division could obtain much information of value along these lines:

1. Staple food production (particularly rice) and production trends; associated information would include land development accomplishments, fertilizer availability and use, crop insect and disease data, availability of tools and equipment.

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+ signature

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Army review(s) completed.

2. Agricultural production and trends of several products, including fibers, oils, pyrethrum, tobacco, and animal population and production.

3. Economic status and trends of agriculture as indicated by prices, farmer income, credit, farmer deposits, rents and employment.

4. Social and economic stability of farm populations as indicated by status and trends of, and farmer attitudes toward land tenure, agricultural cooperatives, agricultural extension programs, including youth activity, farmer activity and home life improvement.

5. Special technical and scientific agricultural information on new processes and techniques, research findings and soils information.

In forestry there is a large reservoir of information and material available in Japan which would be of scientific and strategic importance to the United Nations on the conditions and potential timber and wood resources of several Far Eastern countries. For example, incomplete information has been gathered and is now in our files on the forest resources in Korea, Manchuria, Formosa, Sakhalin, and Indo-China. Several repatriated foresters are now in Japan who have spent many years in these countries; their knowledge could be exploited if qualified personnel were assigned to the project in the near future and for which personnel is not now available.

In the domain of fisheries information could be gathered on:

1. Japanese overseas fishing operations in North Pacific and South Pacific and certain other Asiatic waters.

2. Economic and social aspects of Japanese fishing activities during the Japanese occupation of the Mandated Islands.

3. Contribution of the Japanese fisheries to the prewar economy of Japan.

4. Availability of Japanese fisheries skill and equipment in technical assistance programs to underdeveloped areas.

5. Japanese fishing operations in the Bonin, Ryukyus, and Formosa Islands.

6. Development of Japanese fisheries in the Philippines and the effect on Philippine economy (prewar).

The Mining and Geology Division of Natural Resources Section has undertaken a series of reports describing important mineral deposits of Manchuria, China and South Asia. There is a current need for all possible information on these deposits. Much information is in our files and more is being gathered during process of routine work with the Japanese.

Projects and reports now are underway on the following subjects:

1. Sources of Iron Ore in Asia.

2. Mineral Resources of Manchuria.

3. Mineral Deposits of China.

4. Mineral Deposits of South Asia.

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5. Mineral Resources of Formosa.

6. Bibliography of Coal Deposits in N. Korea, Manchuria and China.

Reports on Asiatic minerals outside of Japan that have been completed and published by NR, Mining and Geology, are herein listed.

<u>Report No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Year</u>
12	Sources of Phosphate for Japan	45
23	Korean Mineral Statistics	46
35	Mineral Industry of Korea	46
84	Mineral Resources of South Korea	47
50	Iron and Steel Metallurgy of the Japanese Empire	46
68	Fushun Coal Field, Manchuria	47
85	Magnesium Metallurgy in the Japanese Empire	47
87	Aluminum Metallurgy in the Japanese Empire	51
	Angaur Island Phosphate Deposits	

Published Preliminary Studies:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Year</u>
1	Formosan Mineral Statistics	46
19	Source of Coal in East Asia	46
26	Source of Bauxite in Asia (also published by U.S.B.M.)	48

In addition to the above listed reports, some Confidential and Secret reports have been completed and made available to authorized departments of the U. S. Government.

Sincerely yours,

s/ Hubert G. Schenck

HUBERT G. SCHENCK
Lt Col CE
(Chief, Natural Resources Section)